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Project Location

Eastern Steppes region – Dornod, Sukhbaatar, and southern Khenti Aimags

Project Goal

Develop a management system for the Eastern Steppe that preserves its ecological integrity using a wildlife-focused, proactive approach to landscape planning and implementation, and promote the adoption of sustainable conservation practices on the Eastern Steppe and throughout Mongolia.

Funding Period

October 2003 – September 2008

Funded by:

USAID Global Conservation Program II
Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund
UNDP-GEF

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Project Objectives

- Improve landscape-level planning and management based on the landscape species approach.
- Promote policy changes based on sound knowledge of the needs of humans and wildlife.
- Assist with development of economic alternatives that allow for sustainable use of steppe resources.

Major Accomplishments

- Started a monthly conservation networking and information sharing event.
- Presented recommendations to the Mongolian Government on hunting regulations.
- Presented recommendations to the Government on Brandt's vole management and use of rodenticides.
- Collected, created metadata for, and began analyzing spatially explicit landscape data sets.
- Performed research and published peer-review information on gazelle biology and management.
- Hosted an international workshop on Mongolian gazelle harvest and management.
- Submitted Mongolian gazelle harvest recommendations to the Mongolian Government.
- Instituted agreements to review and assess eight Protected Area management plans.
- Sent a research associate for spring semester coursework at University of Massachusetts Amherst.
- Developed plans to perform a formal Threats Assessment in collaboration with government, NGOs, and local communities



The Eastern Steppe Living Landscape:

Sustaining Wildlife
and Traditional Livelihoods
in the Arid Grasslands of Mongolia